

Las Vegas Urban Area Working Group (UAWG)

PUEBLO ROOM
CLARK COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER
500 S. GRAND CENTRAL PKWY
LAS VEGAS NV 89106

FINAL MINUTES

Wednesday February 12, 2014 11:00 A.M.

ATTENDANCE

UAWG MEMBERS PRESENT:

JOHN STEINBECK, MICHAEL JOHNSON, CAROLYN LEVERING, JEFF LYTLE, NICOLE HART, RYAN TURNER, RICHARD RESNICK, CHRIS SPROULE

UAWG ALTERNATES PRESENT:

JEFF QUINN

UAWG MEMBERS ABSENT:

KEVIN NICHOLSON, PAUL GERNER, STEVE KRAMER, RICK DIEBOLD,

Assistant Chief Mike Johnson, former Interim Emergency Manager introduced newly appointed Deputy Chief John Steinbeck as the Clark County Emergency Manager and UAA/Chair of the UAWG.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

John Steinbeck, UAWG Chairman called the meeting to order at 11:07 A.M. on Wednesday February 12, 2014. Quorum present.

II. Public Comments

- George Molnar advised the group that SONNET was disbanded and the Nevada Public Safety Communications Committee the NPSCC has been established by executive order and in the process of being set up. The Governor's office is to solicit for nominees for the committee from a variety of agencies listed in the executive order. First meeting is expected in and around March 2014. And will take on the roles of SONNET and NCSC and related to betting grants for compliance on communications, and getting information out to the community. The NPSCC will take the place of both the prior committees. Should you have any other questions, please contact George Molnar.

III. Approval of the November 2013 Minutes.

Motion, by Ryan Turner: **To accept the minutes as recorded.**

Seconded, by Nicole Hart.

No discussion, motion carried.

IV. Comments from the Chair

The Chair introduced himself as promoted personnel, in addition to over 20 years of FEMA of operational background and disasters, and he thanked everyone for their help in the transition and gave some background relative to his experience. He advised that he will be contacting the UAWG members to engage in one-on-one meetings and would appreciate their candor in ways to improve CCOEM's service to others. The Chair stated that he feels that we are all one community and responsible for our preparedness and well-being. Further that there are no separations. Chief wishes for cooperation from all agencies and officers to work together to make our community response teams more efficient.

V. Review and approve project change request for de-obligation in the amount of \$120,000.00

Captain Evan Hannah presented the case for de-obligation of the Fire TLO project giving history on where the funds initially came from as well as setting the platform for the re-obligation request to follow on the agenda to fill an open position.

Motion, by Carolyn Levering: **To approve the requested action.**

Seconded, by Ryan Turner. All in Favor, None Opposed

No discussion, motion carried.

VI. Review and Approve Investment Justification for Hostile MCI Body Armor FFY11 for use of de-obligated funds from UASI FFY2011 FUSION CENTER SNCTC in the amount of \$118,708.00

Captain Evan Hannah presented the proposal for the Hostile Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) personal Protective Equipment (PPE) against active shooters. He advised the group that the Fire Department is prohibited to go through normal grant processes to buy ballistic equipment because the language hasn't caught up with the times. It also prohibits them from piggybacking on any law enforcements grants that are purchasing ballistic equipment, for the same reason, that the language hasn't caught up. They are looking to purchase equipment for the 494 seats that are throughout the valley in all fire service vehicles. The thought is that it is more fiscally sound to purchase per seat where a firefighter would sit versus individual equipment for each person (of 1700 firefighters), at a level four (4) protection body armour as a reoccurring cost every five years.

Motion, by Ryan Turner: **To approve the requested action**

Seconded, by Jeff Lytle

Discussion

Carolyn Levering, asked whether this was the best way to use of this de-obligated funding from the LVUAWG, or was it the best use at the moment giving the source of the funding. Carolyn reiterated that she wanted the question put out there since the funding was not put into the pot for other projects to apply for in the Urban Area. Chief Lytle addressed her question stating it was a fair question and further justified the reasoning behind the need for the protective equipment.

Irene Navis then stated that this item was agendized at the suggestion of NDEM to ensure that the LVUAWG concurred with the use of the funds in this manner. She then reiterated that there are no other funding sources available for this type of purchase. All parties involved support the purchase, specifically the Fire Chief and NDEM as it stays within scope.

Nicole Hart asked for clarification on what IJ this would fall under. Captain Hannah advised that it would be a new.

The Chair called for any other questions there were none. He then commented on the importance of this equipment and restated that there was a motion on the floor and asked if there was any further discussion.

No further discussion, motion carried.

VII. Discussion FFY12USAI-Fusion Center de-obligation and re-obligation of \$44,600.00.00 Presentation of project requests for re-obligation use of FFY12 UASI funds, discussion and possible approvals by the UAWG for such use.

Irene Navis reported on the available FFY12USAI-Fusion Center funds and a proposal for possible use. Irene advised that she is the acting grants administrator of this project until position is filled. Per Ms Navis, a request through Department of Emergency Management for and extension of time has been granted until June 30, 2014 for any potential project endorsed by the LVUAWG. Carolyn Levering discussed the submission deadlines. Irene Navis reiterated the deadline date of the re-obligation request to be June 30, 2014 in addition to information to obtain administrative approval of funding directly through NDEM after submission of budget. Detective Jeff Villard from Las Vegas Metro ARMOR presented his proposal to submit an application to use a substantial portion of funds for air monitors and other CBRNE equipment. Mark Blomstrom posed the question Det. Villard whether he has equipment that may be subject to recalibration or if obsolescence is imminent. Det. Villard needs approximately \$40,000.00 of these funds to replace equipment, and stated that there is approximately \$ 880,000.00 in equipment that is either right now or going to be in need of replacement in the next 2 years for that very reason of obsolescence.

Motion, by Nicole Hart: To approve the project manager Jeff Villard to put together request up to the amount of \$44,600.00 to spend down the current deobligated funds from UASI FFY2012 to purchase air monitors and replace that were previously purchased in 2004.

Seconded, by Carolyn Levering

No discussion, motion carried.

VIII. Update on actions and strategies on behalf of the Las Vegas Urban Area with regard to regaining UASI designation.

The Chair briefed the body on the strategy being implemented to assist in the redesignation of the UASI. He stated his appreciation for all of the efforts of all involved to achieve this common goal for recognition as a UASI jurisdiction. He then commented regarding feedback into the federal grant process of the funding opportunity announcements and the relative risk profile. The funding opportunity announcements comments were submitted to FEMA. Clark County prepared a white paper and letter to the delegation members (*inaudible comments 1:28:15-39*) The Governor is preparing his own letter. The Chair states that time is of the essence and wants all to be aware of the response letter that is due. Unknown speaker (*1:29:30-1:30:26*) wants to know what the city of Henderson is doing. Irene Navis commented on the joint efforts for the letters (in draft, not yet released) and correspondence that are to be sent to the Congressional Delegation for the hearing that are held in Washington DC.

No action needed

IX. Review the 2014 MSA Risk Profile, and discuss and approve points of response to be returned to DHS by Friday February 14, 2014.

The Chair opened the item for attendees to review 2014 MSA Risk Profile and discussion. Carolyn Levering lead the discussion that our Local Urban Area Groups are required to compile reports of data call to submit to influence the federal government in regards to our community's threats and vulnerability, including the annual process of DHS. This report was

not completed for 2013. Department of Homeland Security composed a risk profile for our community and gave us two weeks to respond. A draft letter of the current MSA Risk Profile Report is classified for official use, but available for review only if you are a member of The Urban Area Working Group. Carolyn Levering states that our community risk ranking has dropped from 33 to 29. This risk formula is good for funding, but challenging when we are still at risk. Only the top 25 at-risk areas imposed by Congress were the communities who received funding. Therefore many other cities did not receive urban area money for 2013 due to the statistical criteria. Other communities in other parts of the country have the same concerns of how FEMA calculates and analyzes urban area data for funding. Senator Reid's office efforts had culminated to remove the cap off of the top 25 communities that would include our area to receive funding for the 2014 year. Importantly, Carolyn Levering emphasizes our participation to collaborate with the FEMA committee as to how their formula is created, calculated and compiled to evaluate the risk factors and have our data re-considered for funding. Nicole Hart suggest adding last year's response letter to be attached to this year's FEMA report. Carolyn adds comments the definitions of ranking and how FEMA has changed our MSA name. Our air crossings in our border crossing data element are now included and considered, including the international air crossing at McCarran as part of our local risk factor profile. Ryan Turner comments on our relative risk profile. Capt. Fitzgerald, Las Vegas Police Dept. comments to add our risk factors and contingencies for the city of Las Vegas....(comments unclear 1:49:44-1:50:49). Nicole Hart adds a comment under DIB facilities has (for reasons unclear) improved in ranking. Carolyn comments on her excursion with council members as visitors to the test site in Nye County to witness and discuss the nuclear shipments from Oakridge. Carolyn Levering states the undeveloped land is counted in the risk factor when in fact it should not be included of our area report. Chief Steinbach comments on emphasizing our need for funding and re-evaluation of the statics analysis of the report. Mr. Blomstrom comments on the risk profile changes in the threat area, dropped in ranking but rose in volatility and consequence. He also compliments the works done thus far on communications to the agencies. He adds the need to include sensitivity factors to terrorism as in transportation, tourism, etc. to identify the terrorism in each of these industries.

Motion, by John Steinbeck: **To approve the requested action.**

Seconded, by: Nicole Hart

No discussion, motion carried

X. FFY14 HSGP. Overview of estimated timeline and process for FFY14 Homeland Security Grant Program, especially in regard to the Homeland Security Working Group and the UAWG. Chairman reads statement from

The Chair announces Mr. Blomstrom comments on basic fact sheet available regarding the federal routine, and states that we are up by approximately 4.8% for the nationwide UASI funding from the Appropriation Act of 2014. The State Homeland Security Program is up by 13.8% in terms of state funding and EMPG is up 5% are favorable increases. Not as much funding as previous years of 2008-2011, but increases are anticipated to be favorable. Firefighter assistance grants have also been increased. Key note to consider is the timing is same as last year coming from Congress. No deadlines to meet, which means the Funding Opportunity Announcement is due, the latest date March 18, 2014 in time for the President to sign the Appropriation Act into law. At that time it will be determined if the LVUAWG will receive any funding, should DHS use the maximum time allowed to submit the Investment Justification package by June 6, 2014. FEMA then would be required to inform us after 65 days of the funding award date of approximately August 8th 2014. Maximizing the window of

submission times from all agencies will come close to the end of federal fiscal year on September 30th 2014. This in turn can work to our benefit to put together Investment Justifications. Moving to the local level matters. Mr. Blomstrom stated no major changes from Nevada Department of Emergency Management(DEM) this year with the Homeland Security Working Group (HSWG) and in conjunction with LVUAWG and this group to operate in the same capacity as the previous year. Mark will be meeting with DEM to put together a preliminary timetable. Upon acceptance of the HSWG's timetable, DEM will then be able to incorporate any requirements of special and/or additional meetings of the LVUAWG. Mark ask for questions or comments to be direct to him. Carolyn Levering asked how many working group meetings are anticipated to correlate with Homeland Security Commission meetings and priorities for the year? And she stated there is a lot to be done before moving forward in this matter. Mr. Blomstrom responded with that there was a special meeting of the commission on the 28th of February 2014 where the results of the THIRA and the SPR will be presented to the commission. The commission will later meet to set priorities and dates however it will not be on the agenda at the end of February 2014.

Motion, by N/A: **No action needed**
Seconded, by: N/A

XI. Report on Response to FEMA request for the critique and input for 2014 Funding Opportunity Announcement (guidance on "guidance).

Chief Steinbeck has moved agenda item ahead of item #10 and announced Irene Navis to respond to #11 first. Irene Navis comments on a brief report in regards to the response to FEMA and funding opportunity announcement. She stated that this is the first time FEMA has asked for feedback on the upcoming grants announcement, guidance and direction. The firm deadline to FEMA has been met, which includes feedback from all and was forwarded in a collaborative response from Clark County and Nevada Division of Emergency Management. FEMA suggests any changes from our own lobbyists should be address upon discovery and not wait and provide feedback to our delegation on missed opportunities and concerns are to be submitted in time for the President's budget release which is March 4, 2014. We can effect change by including our grant suggestions at a moment's notice for immediate consideration. Continue to search and acknowledge grant opportunities as they become available and grant committee hearings throughout the year. Her suggestion is to advocate other agencies to get involved on a regular basis as a strategy to work together for funding and budget considerations. FEMA has also accepted our feedback in paragraph format in lieu of the matrix that is customarily requested to be completed. Should there be any other response from FEMA, she will forward that information to the group upon receipt.

Motion, by N/A: **No action needed**
Seconded, by: N/A
Discussions by Irene Navis motion: N/A

XII. Citizen Corp Council

- Amateur Radio Emergency Service
Bill Smith reported how ARES/RACES will participate and support the Tremor 14 exercise. They will be offering training courses that will assist the hospitals in the use of their radio equipment and monthly training sessions will be held in ODC-3..
- Community Emergency Response Team

No report

- Medical Reserve Corps/Health District
Paula Martel discussed partnerships with Rick Diebold and Irene Navis and the role of the veterinary volunteers she stated she was looking forward to establishing a rapport. There will be a class between 6pm and 6:30pm tonight located at the Health District where Sgt. Dave Tony, MACTAC will present Active Shooter training all are welcome. Paula advised that she has fliers with more information about that training and she then stated that her volunteers were also involved in the Tremor 14 exercise. Paul advised the group that the Medical Reserve Health Corps is administering flu shots to North Las Vegas.
- Neighborhood Watch
No updates to report
- Jason Moyer reported that they have 1,517 programs in the jurisdiction.
No updates to report
- Volunteer In Police Service
Jason Moyer reported that 165,851 volunteer hours were worked in 2013 by the Metro Volunteer program, 102,214 contacts on The Strip corridor, 135,236 assistants volunteered at LVMPD headquarters reception desk which does not include Metro employee contact, and 238,173 at the airport in addition to the city and county parking citations and safety instructions. The fourth quarter reflects the Re-Acts Traffic Volunteer program under the auspice of the Metro Volunteer Program and will soon hear of some traffic volunteer statistics as well.

XIII. Public Comments

- None

Next Regularly Scheduled UAWG meeting: To Be Announced

IX. Adjournment

Motion, by Mike Johnson: **To adjourn**

Seconded, by Nicole Hart.

No discussion, motioned, N/A

Meeting adjourned at 1:15PM

In accordance to Nevada's Open Meeting Law, this meeting was properly posted and electronically recorded.